

Release of undisbursed amount of FRF fund

2913. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any performing State has requested for release of the undisbursed amount of Fiscal Reforms Facility (FRF) fund;

(b) whether EAP loans are being not passed through public account as per recommendations of Twelfth Finance Commission; if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether debt relief for 2006-07 are not granted to State Governments so far, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Some States have requested for pro-rata distribution of the undistributed amount of Fiscal Reforms Facility Fund.

(b) External loans do not flow to the States through the public account but through the Consolidated Fund of India. This is in line with the decision of Government of India while accepting the recommendations of Twelfth Finance Commission.

(c) No, Sir. Twelfth Finance Commission recommended debt waiver subject to States fulfilling certain conditions. As and when States fulfil these conditions, eligibility of debt waiver for 2006-07 will be determined and sanctioned to the eligible States.

CBI investigation against customs officials

2914. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the C.B.I. has completed its investigation against the customs officials at Karipur Airport who are reported to have taken bribery running into several crore of rupees and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) by when the chargesheet against them would be filed in the court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The CBI has completed the investigation and has submitted its report *vide* letter dated 23.10.2006. RC 26(A)/2005-Ker has been registered by CBI against customs and central excise officials of Karipur Airport, Calicut for demand and acceptance of bribes from passengers coming from abroad. After completion of investigation, CBI has recommended prosecution against 36 officials of Customs and Central Excise (Group 'A'=1, Group 'B'=12, Group 'C'=19 and Group 'D'=4) of the Department under Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. The CBI has also recommended Regular Departmental Action for major penalty against 23 officials (Group 'C'=12 and Group 'D'=11) of the department under CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965.

(b) As per procedure, sanction of prosecution is accorded by the disciplinary authorities concerned after taking into consideration the advice of CVC. Necessary follow up action on the recommendations of CBI has already been initiated. Filing of chargesheet is dependent upon the availability of sanction of prosecution.

Reduction in voting powers by IMF

2915. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA:

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a recent decision the IMF had decided to increase the voting power of countries like China, Turkey, South Korea, and Argentina;

(b) whether at the same time it has also decided to reduce the voting power of India;

(c) when did IMF take up this issue and what was the process adopted for decision making in this matter; and

(d) whether despite all efforts that India made, we secured less than 10 per cent of the votes in the IMF against more than 90 per cent votes polled against us?